

GAS AND SCHOOL BOARD TRADE IS DEFEATED AS SULLIVAN FORCES FAIL TO DELIVER

A red-blooded, heated majority of the city council jumped the traces last night and broke up one of the dirtiest deals ever attempted in Chicago politics—the swap on the "permissive gas ordinance" and the Thompson-Lundin political and religious school board.

Warned by The Day Book, the independent council forces were on the lookout for a deal between Sullivan Democrats and the City Hall crowd to pass the gas steal and keep Mayor Thompson's school board looters in power.

Today, in the calm following yesterday afternoon's stormy session, the trick was plain. Mayor Thompson was to recognize Ald. Thomas Lynch, "Sullivan's man," who in turn would call up the permissive gas ordinance which intends to resuscitate the People's Gas, Light & Coke Co.'s failing finances out of the pockets of the people.

If the "faithful 26," who take their orders from the "little city hall" in Room 1108 Hotel La Salle, voted with the Sullivan Democrats on the gas question, it was arranged that a "faithful" would jump up and move to adjourn.

The plan then was for the mayor to take a viva voce vote and declare the council adjourned. The Sullivan Democrats would then arise and leave the council with the administration forces, so that a quorum would not be present.

This would have prevented the council from reviewing and voting against the mayor's school board.

It was Ald. A. A. McCormick, ally of the Tribune, who stopped the deal. When the mayor refused to let Ald. Eugene Block call up the schools question and instead gave the floor to Ald. Lynch, Mr. McCormick asked that the council should not be adjourned before 6 o'clock.

Then Ald. Ed Cullerton moved an

immediate adjournment to save the mayor's school board. The mayor gaveled through the adjournment, declared the council adjourned and left the chambers.

Then the swap was stopped.

Some of the Sullivan Democrats were sore clear through at Mayor Thompson's stunt. Others just sat in their seats in hope of saving the gas ordinance when it was called. They had been instructed to do two things—to uphold the mayor's school board and to get the Insull gas steal through. So they sat still and a quorum remained to oust the mayor and substitute Ald. John Richert.

A stenographic record of the attempt to swap, follows:

The Mayor—Now, Ald. Block, I am going to recognize Ald. Lynch first, as I have agreed, and I would be very glad to recognize you afterward.

Ald. Block—Mr. President, I thought that Ald. Lynch, who has the right of the floor by usage, had yielded to this matter. And, besides that, I had a messenger take up my proposition. I understood—

The Mayor—Well, the messenger did not deliver the corrected message. I said I would recognize him. The chair now recognizes Ald. Lynch of the 35th ward.

Ald. T. J. Lynch—Mr. President, I desire to take up for consideration today the report of the committee on gas, oil and electric light.

Ald. A. A. McCormick—I wish to make a motion that when this council adjourns it adjourns at 6 o'clock tonight.

That motion was seconded.

Ald. Kunz—What is that motion?

Ald. A. A. McCormick—I make the motion that when this council adjourns it adjourns at 6 o'clock this evening.

Ald. Michaelson—For what purpose, may I ask the mover of the motion? We might before that?